

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

The specification has been objected to as containing a number of minor informalities. Paragraph [0005] has been amended so as to correct these informalities. As a result, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 6 and 8-13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Duan (US 6,028,564) in view of Edward (US 4,825,200). Claims 4 and 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Duan in view of Edward and further in view of Saunders (US 6,343,369).

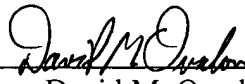
Claim 7 has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter. The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended so as to including the features of claim 7 and claim 7 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein. As a result, it is apparent that claims 1-6 and 8-13 are allowable. Further, claims 9, 11 and 12 have been amended to make a number of minor editorial revisions.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that there are issues remaining which must be resolved before allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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